



Trigg County Deputy
Greyson Taylor

ABBIE DARST | PROGRAM COORDINATOR

With a fresh from the academy perspective, Greyson Taylor is applying both the knowledge he has learned in the college classroom and the tactics he developed while in basic training to his budding career in law enforcement. Greyson holds a bachelor’s degree in history and international affairs and is currently working toward a master’s degree in history. Despite the busy schedule of this 25-year-old husband and young father, his passion for service and dedication to the people of Trigg County will propel him a long way throughout his career.

I love history — that’s just where it’s at for me. I’ve always loved history. International affairs is something I thought I could tie in with it. That’s pretty much why I decided to do that. I’m currently working on my master’s now in history, just because I have a true love for history — I really, really like it. I just can’t get away from history. Seems like in this job it’s just all around you. I’ve learned a lot about my local history here that I didn’t know about before.

The summer before I graduated from college, I went to officer candidate school with the Marine Corps. I tested that out and I really liked it. It was a platoon leadership course. It was two, six-week sessions. I was going to go back the summer of my senior year and I was going to complete it. Within that time span I met my wife and kindly changed my perspective on whether I wanted to be more local or gone away. So, I decided I wanted to be a little closer to home.

I’ve always been interested in federal law enforcement, but I hadn’t really thought about local law enforcement at the time. I was sworn in Feb. 3, 2011 and I began riding with the other senior deputies here. And I began to realize that I really liked law enforcement and what it was really about. You could be sitting still one minute and the next minute you’re on a hot call, and you don’t know what you’re going to see when you get there. And you’re helping people, which is the same thing I was doing before I joined here.

My son was born Jan. 28 that year. It was a hard realization when I got to the academy. I knew it was what I had to do for the best

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of my family, so that was encouraging in the big picture. If you look at the small picture, it was really difficult. It was worth it, but it was difficult being that far away with the little one and my wife. There were lots of phone calls. I was on the phone as much as I could in the nights checking up on him, when I wasn’t studying. But it was difficult. Every weekend, as soon as I could get out of those doors I was on my way home.

I met a lot of good friends at the academy that were going through the same thing I was, and that just grew us closer together as friends. I’ve got my roommate who lives in northern Kentucky and I try to keep in contact with him. There will be spurts where I don’t talk to him for a long time, but we made friends for life there, so we do try to keep in touch.

I would say tactics is one of the biggest things because it allows you to come home at the end of the night. If you do what you’ve been trained to do. If you keep your head, then God willing, you are going to come home at the end of the shift. That and I think just hearing some of the other officers’ stories — retired officers that were teaching us — and taking their perspectives and applying it out here on the road. I feel like that gives me the best grasp on things and helps me to make decisions while I’m out here.

A lot of officers talk about street smarts, I’m trying to develop those. Getting out there and — like when you’re making traffic stops, looking for key things. I’m nowhere close to being where some of these guys are. But just developing that sense, like an extra sense, I think, and just getting out there and learning the ropes. That’s one of the most interesting things I’ve experienced.

We have pretty heavy case loads here. With history, you have to have a lot of analytical skills. So I use those analytical skills out in the field and as well when I’m writing out reports. I can notice key things and I’ve learned a lot of things from my

lieutenant here with analytical skills as well. Things start to stick out. I start to learn to what I need to be paying more attention. It’s the same thing with history. You can be researching and if you’re not careful, you can just read it all and just get lost in it. But you have to pay attention to those key details or you’ll miss everything.

I feel like I’m getting to know officers a lot better as far as what their experiences are. I’ve got one friend who graduated the academy right before me over at the Cadiz Police Department. I’d say he is one of my real good friends now. We’re out on the road together at the same time. We’ve got each other’s back. So, you talk about a brotherhood, you find a whole new set of friendships in this job that you didn’t have before. You kindly see what everybody was talking about now.

I think every once in a while, if you allow yourself, you can be overwhelmed with it. But it’s kind of like — the officer I was telling you about says you have to roll with the punches, you have to keep going. You have to keep a positive attitude. Keep in mind what you’re doing and why you’re doing it. My love for my family — my wife and my child — that allows me to reason through why I’m doing what I’m doing. It is chaotic sometimes, but I think it’s worth it.

When you’re an officer, you can’t ever just leave it here. When you live in the same county that you work in, you are always watching your back. That’s what they teach you to do at the academy. I don’t feel like you can separate it. I feel like you see the world in a whole new light. You see the positive in people, but you also see the threat. You just really want to protect a lot. You want to take care of your family. You have to be the safest you can. In a way, you can leave the job here as far as worrying about it. But at the same time you’ve always got in the back of your mind — there’s that person we arrested a couple of weeks ago.

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